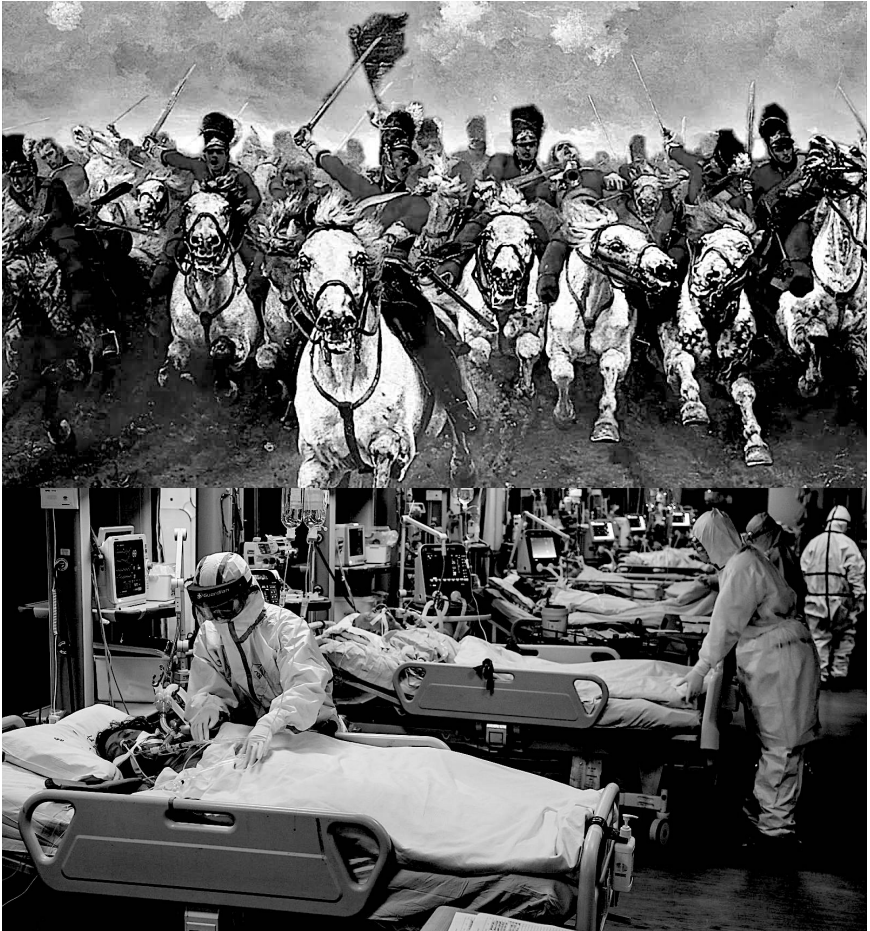


Coronæconomics



The Charge of the Work Brigade

**& Other Infectious Poems
on Getting Back to Work**

Olchar E. Lindsann

The Charge of the Work Brigade

I

~~~~~  
“We have to get open and we have to get moving. We don’t want to lose these companies. We don’t want to lose these workers”  
– Donald Trump, Press Conference, 3-23-20  
~~~~~

One month, one month,
One month in quarantine,
Then: all into the Market of Death
Rode the working class.
“Forward, on infectious feet!
Be our profit-fodder now!” he tweets.
Into the Market of Death –
Back to work with the working class.

II

~~~~~  
“What we’re seeing now, in actual real time, is something that’s unprecedented. This is something we have never seen before, at least in our generation.  
– Anthony Fauci, Director US Inst. of Infectious Disease  
~~~~~

“Forward, the Work Brigade!”
Was there a debt unpaid?
Although the worker wondered
how Capital had blundered:
Theirs not to make reply,
Theirs not to reason why,
Theirs but to work and die.
Into the Market of Death –
Back to work with the working Class.

III

~~~~~  
“As a senior citizen, are you willing to take a  
chance on your survival in exchange for keep-  
ing the America that America loves for its child-  
ren and grandchildren?”

– *Dan Patrick, Lt. Governor of Texas*  
~~~~~

Covid to right of them,
Covid to left of them,
Covid in front of them
 Drifted and passed;
Squeezed down with debt and spore,
Boldly they died and more,
Infected by the mouth of Death,
Infected by the lungs of hell –
 Back to work with the working class.

IV

~~~~~  
“If we have thousands or hundreds of thou-  
sands of people that get better, just by, you  
know, sitting around and even going to work,  
some of them go to work, but they get better,  
and then when you do have a death, like you’ve  
had in the state of Washington, like you had one  
in California, I believe you had one in New York.”

– *Donald Trump, 3-11-30 on the Sean Hannity Show*  
~~~~~

Hacking all their dry throats bare,
Hacking as they gulped the air
Heaving as they laboured there,
Dancing with the Market Bear
 As the bankers worked from home.

Plunged in clear corona-smoke
Upon assembly-lines they were broke;
The sick and the old
Reeled from the masterstroke
 Weakened and expired.
So they went back, inspired
 by debt: the working class.

V

~~~~~  
“Despite experts’ warnings, a coalition of progressive and voting rights groups, organized by the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights’ Voting Rights Task Force, cheered on the states that planned to hold elections as normal, claiming that postponing elections was tantamount to voter suppression.”

– *The Intercept*, 3-27-20

~~~~~  
Covid to right of them,
Covid to left of them,
Covid behind them
 Drifted and passed;
Squeezed down with debt and spore,
they toppled to the warehouse floor.
They that had worked so well
Chewed by the jaws of Death,
Infected by the breath of hell,
Debt for all who were left of them,
 Left of the working class.

VI

~~~~~  
“I think we, in a way, are protecting the students by having them on campus together.”

– Jerry Falwell Jr., *Letter Re-opening  
Liberty University in defiance of  
Quarantine, 3-24-20*  
~~~~~

When can their glory fade?

O the cash for capitalists they made!

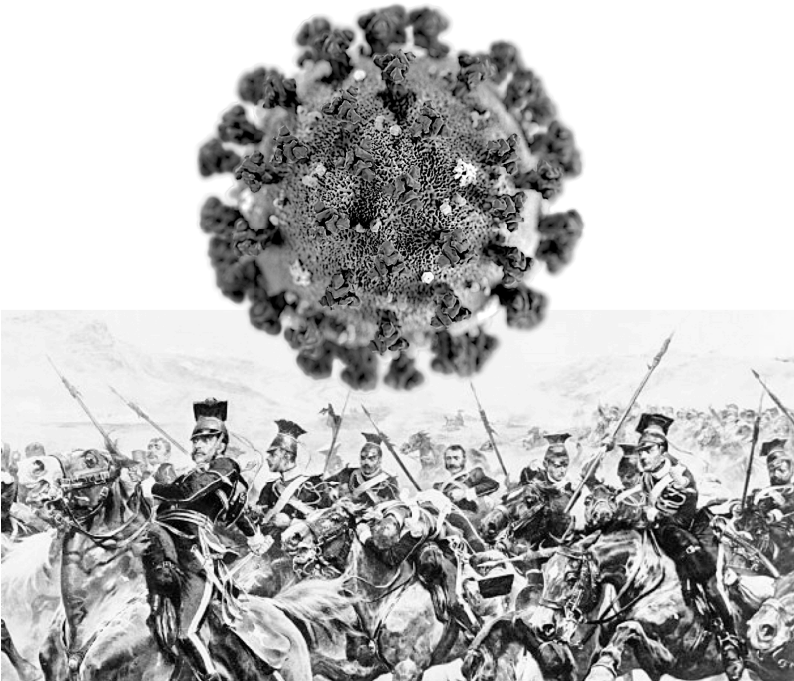
Six proud feet under.

Keep for the bosses the money they made!

Keep ‘em at work, the Work Brigade,
the Honest working class!

~~~~~  
"We'll be back in business as a country very soon."

– Donald Trump, 3-23-20  
~~~~~



Primæry Plague

~|~~~~~

“ciently voluptuous to close our
eyes against the crowd of unheard
evils that your luxury engendered
in the two hemispheres? You viol ”

– Sebastien Mercier, *Paris in the
Year 2440* (1771)

~~~~

“ chine hummed complacently to  
itself, oblivious of the poor hungry  
starving wretches just outside its  
beryllium casing. How lit ”

–Michael Helsem, *Mysteries From  
Forgotten Worlds* (1984)

~~~~~

bubble me, fed on platinum buboes
thrum of obviously, splent of viral
circuit compass, batted eyes lash scariface
 (cell vent quarantine convention
 stalking soil satin retch)
cities of hunkered are nibbling or sweat
remote husking neighbourlie
bent on beryl refugee scoria amethyst
 (dental hoarde, ô plethora of tithing
 bird-stretch cyst mask)
disinfectant hummer market bear
it broad and grinly, mere a-biden neo
lib a-gain, bandwagons to diamonds trump
 (order queue tsunami, goods
 hatch of mayflies fisting)
phlegm secures crowd border smog meme
meat corral your covid luxury snot
leprous weather brexit season
 (voluptuous for mouth, nose, eyes, ears, buboes
 on democracy bloom, decameron,
 jaundice klaxon mini mart)

Prior i Ties

~~~~~  
“fluence of my contemporaries has won o”

– Stendhal, *The Red and the Black* (1830)

~~~~~  
“oiled so hard that they infected much of France: suc”

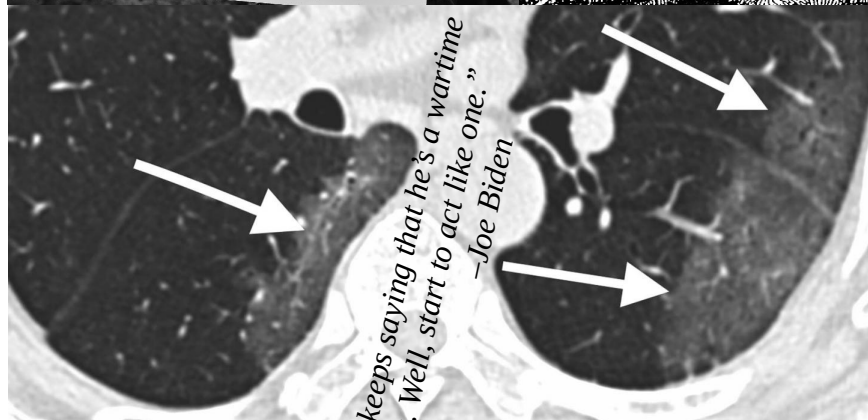
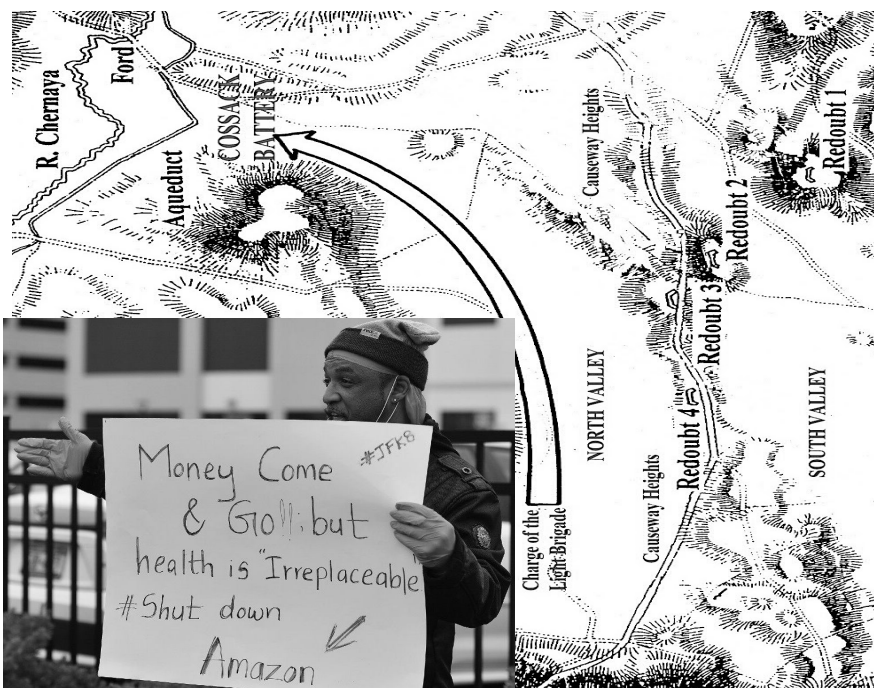
– Pasquier, *Chronicle* (c.1563)

~~~~~  
on pinions of pest:  
feckless as pustule maga lemming  
plastic twitter mask tarp city tagion flew  
finance is best  
fever market moderate my lovingly immune  
neo-libcon slush sweat spore, in vestment flu  
sleep covid con temporaries agencies trickle-down morgue  
nor distance nor test  
back to hack out phlegm work wall streets crowded walls  
of plague-breath spinneth industry’s splendorous wheels  
bursts out stock jab tantrum, quarantine breaks of temper wary  
worker army finance-fodder casualty temporary  
ghost halo coughing, pandemic as a profit

~~~~~  
“WE CANNOT LET THE CURE BE WORSE THAN
THE PROBLEM ITSELF.”

–Donald Trump, a tweet (22 March, 2020)

~~~~~  
:give ethics a rest



April, A.Da. 104  
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